

Sheldrake, Sean

From: Sheldrake, Sean
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 4:19 PM
To: 'Marc Liverman - NOAA Federal'; Genevieve Angle - NOAA Federal
Subject: RE: Portland Harbor ESA species list for upcoming Portland Harbor Biological Assessment

Thanks Marc (and Genevieve). That makes sense—will make it so.

You too.

S

Sean Sheldrake, Unit Diving Officer, RPM
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From: Marc Liverman - NOAA Federal [mailto:marc.liverman@noaa.gov]
Sent: Friday, February 05, 2016 4:10 PM
To: Genevieve Angle - NOAA Federal <genevieve.angle@noaa.gov>
Cc: Sheldrake, Sean <sheldrake.sean@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: Portland Harbor ESA species list for upcoming Portland Harbor Biological Assessment

Primarily for Sean's benefit, I would add that a longer species list, even one with southern resident killer whales, is unlikely to alter the EPA's choice of proposed management measures or the outcome of our effects analysis. It simply acknowledges that this work probably will release at least some dissolved contaminants or re-suspended sediments that will be recycled to the Columbia River and, eventually, the Pacific Ocean. Obviously, our goal is to minimize the intensity and duration of those releases, but we also accept that some adverse impacts are necessary in order to get to the long-term remedy.

On the more positive side, an opinion based on a more robust species list will be easier to move through our internal review process which, in this case, must include marine mammal specialists because of the total size of the action, the contaminants involved, and the level of public controversy. And, after the opinion is signed, it will help to protect against automatic re-initiation and external critics if any monitoring actually does detect a pulse of contaminants that is associated with a remedial action and that will be transported beyond the Lower Willamette.

Please call if you want to discuss further and have a good weekend,

Marc

On Fri, Feb 5, 2016 at 12:39 PM, Genevieve Angle - NOAA Federal <genevieve.angle@noaa.gov> wrote:

Looks like I may have spoken too soon about this. We need to have more internal conversation about whether we will extend the action area out into the Columbia due to contaminant effects downstream from dredging. That would mean including all of those Columbia River species in the BA and also Southern Resident killer whales as well for eating Chinook that have been exposed to higher levels of contaminants due to dredging. Its probably safer to include everything at this point, and we can always cut species from the consultation in the future. Marc, do you want to add anything?

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Genevieve Angle - NOAA Federal** <genevieve.angle@noaa.gov>

Date: Fri, Feb 5, 2016 at 12:16 PM

Subject: Re: Portland Harbor ESA species list for upcoming Portland Harbor Biological Assessment

To: "Sheldrake, Sean" <sheldrake.sean@epa.gov>, Marc Liverman - NOAA Federal <marc.liverman@noaa.gov>

Hi Sean,

Thanks for this. FYI, for the lower Willamette River, there is no need to include Columbia River chum salmon, green sturgeon, or eulachon in the BA. Same goes for critical habitat for green sturgeon and eulachon. These species are only relevant if you extend the action area out into the Columbia River, in which case you would have to add other additional ESUs as well. So, to be clear, in the lower Willamette we consult on Lower Columbia and Upper Willamette Chinook, Lower Columbia and Upper Willamette steelhead, and Lower Columbia coho, as well as critical habitat designated (or proposed in the case of LCR coho) for these species.

Genevieve

Genevieve Angle

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On Fri, Feb 5, 2016 at 12:02 PM, Sheldrake, Sean <sheldrake.sean@epa.gov> wrote:

Mr. Kratz and Mr. Henson,

Please see the attached letter concerning species confirmation for the upcoming Biological Assessment (BA) for Portland Harbor. Please let me know if you have any questions or corrections in two weeks such that we may make any necessary changes to the BA in progress.

Thank you.

S

Sean Sheldrake, Unit Diving Officer, RPM

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